

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 NIC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

/148 W

----- 019075

R 190350Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8230

INFO AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: UPPER HOUSE ELECTS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN  
FOR 1973-74 TERM

REF: SAIGON 18078

1. IN A PLENARY SESSION OCTOBER 18, THE UPPER HOUSE ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FOR THE 1973-74 LEGISLATIVE YEAR. THREE CANDIDATES CONTESTING POSITIONS AGAINST ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTERS WITHDREW PRIOR TO THE VOTING. THESE HAD BEEN THE ONLY POSITIONS FACING CONTESTS, SO THE ADMINISTRATION SWEPT ALL POSTS WITHOUT OPPOSITION. TRAN VAN LAM WON THE UPPER HOUSE CHAIRMANSHIP BY 45 VOTES AGAINST ZERO, WITH SIX VOTES BLANK OR IRREGULAR.

2. THE WINNERS OF ALL 15 POSITIONS WERE THE FOLLOWING:

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HOUSE OFFICERS:

- 1) CHAIRMAN                      TRAN VAN LAM
- 2) FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN        TRAN TRUNG DUNG
- 3) SECOND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN       PHAM NHU PHIEN

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

- 1) AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE        TRAN VAN QUA
- 2) COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC  
WORKS COMMITTEE                PHAM NAM TRUONG
- 3) ECONOMY COMMITTEE            NGUYEN VAN AN
- 4) LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE                        DOAN VAN CUU
- 5) BUDGET, FINANCE, AND TAXATION  
COMMITTEE                        TRAN NGOC OANH
- 6) FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION  
COMMITTEE                        NGUYEN DUY TAI
- 7) RULES COMMITTEE               DAO HUU PHAN
- 8) INTERIOR COMMITTEE            NGUYEN TOAI
- 9) NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE    TON THAT DINH
- 10) JUDICIARY COMMITTEE          HOANG XUAN HAO
- 11) CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND YOUTH  
COMMITTEE                        LE PHUCC SANG
- 12) HEALTH COMMITTEE            NGUYEN DUC TRANG

3. WITH 51 SENATORS PRESENT, THE VOTES FOR THE WINNERS RANGED  
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FROM 40 TO 45, THE REMAINDER BEING BLANK, IRREGULAR, OR  
ABSENT FOR SPECIFIC VOTES. (A SPECIAL CASE WAS THE VOTE FOR  
THE TWO DEPUTY CHAIRMANSHIPS, DECIDED IN A SINGLE BALLOT.  
GETTING 32 VOTES TO PHIEN'S 14, DUNG WON THE FIRST DEPUTY SLOT.)  
THIS PATTERN SUGGESTS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S WORKING MAJORITY  
LIES SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 40 AND 45, I.E. AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS  
OF THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND PROBABLY SEVERAL VOTES MORE.  
MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, UPPER HOUSE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON18195  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731021/aaaaapgl.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SAIGON 18078  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <27-Nov-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UPPER HOUSE ELECTS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FOR 1973-74 TERM  
**TAGS:** PINT, VS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005